

syllable: each separate sound in a word

meter: the patterned rise and fall of stresses in a line

iamb: a double beat with two syllables: an unstressed syllable and then a stressed syllable

foot: a repeated stress pattern of syllables, such as an iamb

trimeter: a line that has three poetic feet

tetrameter: a line that has four poetic feet

pentameter: a line that has five poetic feet

ballad: a four-line form with iambic tetrameter in lines one and three and iambic trimeter in lines two and four

couplet: two rhyming lines of poetry, a rhymed pair, typically in iambic pentameter

stanza: a pattern of lines that repeats

